

Dear elected officials, friends, and family,

My name is Matt Powell and I am a resident of Manchester, CT. I am here to state my up most disgust for senate bill 1076 as well as all bills proposed that will infringe on my ability to protect myself, my family, and this state. I will not speak of amendments or rights or anything more of what you will hear today but I will make two quick points:

1. Anyone in this room who has their Connecticut pistol permit, please take it out and hold it as high as I do, raise their hand or quietly stand up. We all need a refresher on what this Identification means. This card tells you that we are NOT felons, we have NOT been dishonorably discharged, we do NOT have restraining orders on us, we have NOT threatened the use of physical force to any persons, we have NOT been confined to a hospital for any psychiatric disabilities, we have NOT been subject to a firearms seizure, and we are NOT illegal aliens. But we are in fact the honest, upright, law abiding citizens who have passed state and federal background checks that every society wishes they could be made purely of. These laws we protest will not separate the lawful from the unlawful, instead it will put the burdens and actions of those who are unlawful onto the BACKS of us honest people.

2. I will do everything in my power and i urge each firearm owner to do the same: make the next election a one issue election. I promise that if my legislators vote for S.B. 1076 or any others like it, i will work diligently against their re-election. You want to take away our ability to own certain firearms or magazines? Fine, we will vote you out of a job. It is that simple. If S.B. 1076 does pass a vote, my family and I will leave this state, taking our tax dollars with us, and find a new residence that welcomes firearm owners as citizens, not perpetrators. I also will urge Colt, Ruger, Mossberg, Stag, etc. to stand up and leave this state based SOLELY on principle alone.

Thank you for your time